

Good & Bad BMPs



This is NOT what we want in our waterways!



GOOD BMP: These wattles protect the storm drains. This is what we expect to find when we are out on job-site inspections.



BAD BMP: Debris covers a storm drain interfering with drainage. Dirt is also being allowed in our waterways. This is what we do NOT want to find when we are out on job-site inspections.



Best Management Practices

Construction Sites

Lafayette Parish



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www.lafayettela.gov/stormwater

Illicit Discharge & Stormwater Runoff

Stormwater Ordinance

Please be advised that the Environmental Quality Division of Lafayette Consolidated Government has recently adopted an

Illicit Discharge and Construction Runoff Stormwater Ordinance

CHAPTER 34. ENVIRONMENT

ARTICLE V. STORMWATER

It is now in effect and being enforced. You may access this Ordinance online at www.lafayettela.gov or you may call our office at (337) 291-8529 and we will send you a copy by mail.

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Lafayette Parish through regulating what is entering the storm drainage system. The ordinance will be enforced to the maximum practicable extent, as required by state and federal law, which prohibits chemicals and debris from entering the storm water drainage system.

PENALTIES

Inspections from the Planning, Zoning, and Codes Dept. will be discontinued until violation has been corrected, or:

First Offence: \$250.00 per day per offence.

Second Offence: \$500.00 per day per offence.

Third Offence and thereafter: \$1,000.00 per day per offence.

Stormwater Runoff

After a rain, stormwater runoff carries pollutants into nearby bayous, rivers, lakes, estuaries, wetlands, and oceans via storm drains. Storm drains lead directly to water bodies. This polluted water is not treated.

When dirt, sand, and trash enter the storm drain, flooding can occur. Only rain must enter the storm drain. When anything but rain goes down the storm drain, it can become a drainage problem and flood the area.

Stormwater runoff from construction activities is a major contributor of water pollution and can harm water bodies by:

- Increasing the levels of sediment and suspended solids, which lower oxygen levels in water bodies
- Increasing nutrients (nitrogen & phosphorus that are found in washing detergents) that also lower oxygen levels and reduce water quality
- Adding heavy metals to the water hurting fish populations that we ultimately consume
- Raising the number of pathogens that cause disease



Sediment in roadways may lead to safety and drainage problems.

Best Management Practices

Being informed of stormwater runoff can help solve drainage, flooding, and environmental problems. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are key in managing these problems.

BMPs are effective, practical, structural or nonstructural methods, which prevent or reduce the movement of sediment, nutrients, pesticides and other pollutants from the land to surface or ground water. **A BMP must be installed and maintained properly to be effective.** The first BMP established should be education of all employees involved in construction activities.

Types of BMPs

- Stabilized Construction Entrance/Exit Pad with aggregate underlain with filter cloth to reduce tracking of mud and dirt onto roads
- Storm Drain Inserts or Curb protection like straw wattles
- Wash Out Cubes for concrete, dry wall, and paint
- Vegetative Filter Strip to trap dirt
- Silt Fence to keep dirt on site
- Sediment Basin to allow dirt to settle out before the runoff is released

Please call our office for additional information on BMPs and how we can assist you in complying with the **Illicit Discharge and Construction Runoff Stormwater Ordinance.**